

# Hot, hot, hot

■ BY HARRY KALAJIAN

Although in Florida it is always hot, June and on things get even hotter monthly till the winter season.

Our concerns should be focused on two things, the well being of ourselves and our pets. As we take precautions we should also think of our pets, and what we can do to prevent over heat and heat strokes. Here are some facts to abide by.

- When walking your dog try to minimize the length of your walks.

- Try to walk as early as possible or just around or after sunset.

- Don't let your dog sit or lie down on hot grounds, or under direct sunlight. A minute or two is should be fine.

- Avoid walking on hot pavement especially asphalted roads and sand.

- If out and about seek as much of shaded areas you can.

- If you decide to let your dog play with another and there is no shade, minimize the amount.

- Your dog needs shade as much as possible, plus remember even though it has a coat for both heat and cold protection they will still get hot.

- The pads of the paws can tear and burn leaving it in a raw state.

Here is a list of good things to abide by.

- Access to plenty of water "hot cold", room temperature. If it's too cold it's hard on their system.

- Only time you can give cold not excessively cold but just cold water, is when they have been indoors for at least half hour and that they are not panting.

- If your dog is the type that drinks and drinks nonstop, place a huge piece of ice the size of his bowl in their bowl. They can lick it as it melts as well as it prevents them taking it out easily.

8 As a treat buy some yogurt and powdered peanut butter and mix it till

**Keep your dog SAFE in HOT WEATHER**

**Top Tips**

- Walk your dog during cooler parts of the day, either early morning or late evening.
- Always provide fresh, clean water.
- Ensure your dog has access to plenty of shade.
- Your dog may appreciate a paddling pool to splash around in.

**Avoid**

- Never, under any circumstances, leave your dog in a parked car.
- Avoid walking your dog on hot pavements as their paw pads can easily burn.
- Keep your dog out of direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time.

**Signs of Heatstroke**

- Excessive Panting
- Drooling
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Weakness
- Increased heart rate
- Seizures

**Dogs at Higher Risk**

- Brachycephalic (flat-faced) breeds, such as Pugs, Bulldogs and Boxers
- Senior dogs
- Obese dogs

you get a nice consistence mix and taste it so it's palatable and not to peanut buttery. Place it in small containers and freeze it. When ready give it to them to enjoy. You can also use instead of powdered peanut butter different fruits of your choice, cut up small pieces and do the same thing.

- If you want to play with the water hose and also cool them down always start from their feet and work yourself up. Never direct, use the shower

mode on the sprayer. Very Important: Before you spray play with your dog run the hose for at least two minutes before use, this will ensure there is no hot water in the hose from sitting outdoors.

In the event your dog is over heated

- Get face towels wet them roll them and place underneath their arm pits & top of their head, this will help them cool down.

- You can also use a towel large enough that you can wet and place over the dog.

- You can also fill your tub with water and place him in there; it will do a quicker temperature drop. If you don't have a tub a baby pool will also do.

- If within half hour using the wet towels or placement in a tub of cool water and your dog is still heavily panting and looks lethargic take him to the vet to play it safe.

Please note: A dog that plays hard and is thirsty please try to wait a bit before allowing them to drink. By waiting a bit the heart rate goes down and will drink calmer. If your dog wants to still drink fast place something in the bowl like a good size rock in the bowl to slow them down. The reason for this; it's easier on their system as well as prevents air pockets, which can cause a bloat or stomach torsion. "Very Dangerous"

Have a safe summer.

Dear readers if you would like me to write about specific topics please send an email and write in the subject section Topic. I will do my best to have an informative article, pertaining the requested subject. If you don't see the topic you have requested be assured it will be their eventually.

Always remember, training isn't hard as long as you are willing to put time and follow my formula to have success; Patience, Persistence, Consistency & Repetition. If you still fail, it's on you not your dog. You didn't stick to the formula.

Have a woof woof of a month.

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